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with these animals, he believed that, with the waning of the ice-period, began the era of primeval man. In the successive epochs of the ice, indicated by the retreating ice, we have a *relative* chronology; when we ask for more specific statements of age, we find ourselves at once at a loss for an answer. Some indications might be seen in the abrasions of rocks of unequal hardness, and instances were cited in illustration of this.

In the course of the discussion which followed these remarks, Professor Agassiz said he hoped for great results from the investigations now undertaking in our own country, and believed that marks of the reindeer would yet be found in the Carolinas.

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#### CORRESPONDENCE.

J. H. F., New York.—There is unfortunately no complete work on American Cryptogamic Botany. For works on Lichens, however, see the *NATURALIST*, Vol. I, p. 326. You will find the English works of Mr. Cooke, noticed in this number, very useful.

F. W. W., Concord, Mass.—There is no complete American work on Taxidermy. See, however, *NATURALIST*, Vol. I, p. 160, 321.

O. F., Needham Plain, Mass.—For works on American Entomology, see *NATURALIST*, Vol. I, p. 160, 441, and the last number. Subscriptions to "The Guide to the Study of Insects," which will be published in the autumn, may be sent to us.

L. A. R., Bucks, Ohio.—The specimen you inclose is a fossil gigantic Club-moss, *Lepidodendron*, which occurs abundantly in the shale inclosing coal-beds. Specimens from your region would be very acceptable. The Kangaroo Mouse you speak of is the *Jaculus Hudsonicus*, an animal well known as inhabiting nearly all the United States. The species of *Dipodomys*, to which Dr. Coues refers in his papers in the *NATURALIST*, as "Kangaroo Rats and Mice," are not known to occur east of the Mississippi.

N. T. T., Bethel, Me.—The substance to which you refer is the fresh-water Sponge (*Spongilla fluviatilis*). It occurs commonly in the ponds and sluggish brooks and rivers of Maine, and southward.

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#### BOOKS RECEIVED.

*The American Beaver and his Works.* By Lewis H. Morgan. 8vo. Philadelphia, 1868. J. B. Lippincott & Co.  
*An Address on the Propriety of continuing the State Geological Survey of California, delivered before the Legislature at Sacramento, Jan. 30, 1868; to which are appended two letters relative to the Progress of the Geological Survey, etc., etc.* By Professor J. D. Whitney. San Francisco, 1868. 8vo. pp. 23, 14, 15, 14.  
*Papers from "The American Beaver."* By W. W. Ely. Philadelphia, 1868. J. B. Lippincott & Co. 8vo. pp. 46—77, 287—306.  
*The Field.* March 7, 14, 21. London.  
*Cosmos.* February 15, March 7. Paris.  
*American Bee Journal.* April. Washington.  
*Notes on a Collection of Mammals from Arizona.* By Elliott Coues, M. D., U. S. A. 8vo. pp. 4.